



I'VE WASTED A
WHOLE DAY
WITH NOTHING
TO SHOW BUT
FATIGUE.



I CAME ALL
THE WAY TO
AYASE FOR
NO
REASON.



HOW AM
I GOING
TO FIND
PROPERTY IN
A SINGLE DAY
TOMORROW?



Sign: "Kameyama Real Estate"







THIS
ISN'T
GOING
WELL...

HE JUST
PLUNKED DOWN
50 MILLION IN
CASH, AND
WE'RE STILL
WAITING FOR
AN ANSWER...

ARE YOU
MAKING A
FOOL OF
ME?

DID YOU
THINK I'D
CHANGE MY
TUNE UPON
SEEING
CASH?

DID YOU
THINK I'M
THE KIND OF
MAN WHO'LL
CONCEDE
JUST BECAUSE
YOU'VE
SHOWN ME
THE MONEY?



IF YOU
THINK
MONEY WILL
CHANGE
OUR MINDS,
YOU'RE
HUGELY
MISTAKEN!

DON'T KID
AROUND
WITH
GROWN-
UPS!



I VALUE
TRUST OVER
ANYTHING
ELSE. THERE
ARE PLENTY
OF PROBLEMS
IN THE WORLD
YOU CAN'T
SOLVE WITH
MONEY!

I'M NOT
THE KIND
OF MAN TO
SELL HIS
SOUL FOR
CASH!



OH, BOY.
NOW HE'S
MAD.



WE'RE
DONE
TALKING!
NOW GO
HOME!

I WON'T
LET A MERE
CHILD SLAP
ME AROUND
WITH WADS
OF CASH!



THAT'S
WHAT I
WAS
AFRAID
OF...



YOU'RE
RIGHT, THE
OWNER IS
LOOKING
TO SELL
THE LAND.

池山不動産

THE
PARTITIONED
HOUSES AT
2-CHOME?

I SEE.

AS SOON AS THE
LEASE, OKAJIMA
WOODBLOCK,
MOVES OUT, THE
LANDOWNER IS
WILLING TO
NEGOTIATE AT
60 MILLION.

DID
KOSURE-
SAN TELL
YOU
ABOUT
IT?

I'D LIKE
TO HELP
HIM, BUT
THERE'S
NOTHING
I CAN DO.

HE'S A
STRUGGLING
YOUNG MAN.

WELL...
YES.



OF COURSE...
IT'S A
MATTER OF
NEGOTIATION,
SO IT'S UP
TO THE
LANDOWNER,
OF COURSE.



...WOULD I
BE ABLE TO
DISCUSS IT
DIRECTLY
WITH THE
LANDOWNER
IF I ACCEPT
HIS OFFER
OF 60
MILLION?

WELL...



BUT IT SEEMS
THERE ARE
INTERESTED BUYERS
ALREADY, YOU'D
HAVE TO OUTBID
THEM BY QUITE A
MARGIN, OR ELSE
IT'D BE BEYOND
YOUR REACH.



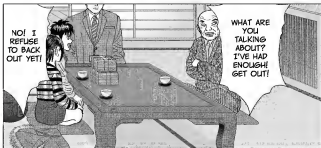
THIS ISN'T
GOING TO
WORK.
FORGET IT.



YOU KNOW
SOMEBODY
WHO WANTS
TO BUY?



NO... I
WAS JUST
ASKING.





TRUST?



THIS
MONEY IS
MY TRUST.



IN OTHER
WORDS,
YOU DIDN'T
WANT TO
NEGOTIATE
WITH ME
DIRECTLY.

YOU SAID
AT FIRST THAT
YOU WANTED
TO SPEAK
DIRECTLY TO MY
GRANDFATHER,
AND ASKED ME
TO CALL HIM.



IT'S ONLY
NORMAL TO
DEMAND TO
SPEAK TO
YOUR
GUARDIAN
INSTEAD.

OF COURSE.
WHO ON
EARTH WOULD
DISCUSS REAL
ESTATE
NEGOTIATIONS
WITH A CHILD?



WHAT?



THAT'S WHY I SHOWED YOU THE CASH, TO GET PAST THE "NORMAL."



A CHILD POSSESSES NOTHING THAT WOULD ENSURE TRUST WITH A GROWN-UP.

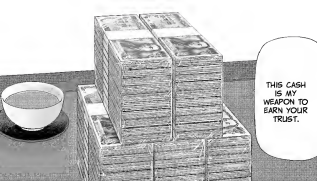
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M A JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, SO I ASSUMED NOBODY WOULD TALK TO ME ABOUT SELLING PROPERTY.



THAT'S WHY I HAD TO FIND THE MEANS TO TURN THE TABLE AROUND.



NO GROWN-UP WOULD NEGOTIATE WITH A CHILD WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE.



THIS CASH
IS MY
WEAPON TO
EARN YOUR
TRUST.



WEAPON...



THAT'S
BECAUSE...

IN SHORT,
IF I SHOW YOU
THE MONEY,
THEN I HAVE
A MEANS OF
NEGOTIATION,
REGARDLESS
OF SEX OR
AGE.

AND
THAT'S
CASH.

THERE'S AN
ULTIMATE
TOOL FOR
US KIDS TO
GET ON
A LEVEL
PLAYING
FIELD WITH
GROWN-UPS.



...MONEY
IS TO BE
TRUSTED,
AND
NOTHING
ELSE.



I'D HAVE
TO OUTBID
60 MILLION
BY A LARGE
MARGIN, OR
ELSE IT
WON'T DO.



NO, WHAT
AM I
THINKING?



PROPERTY
VALUE OF THE
PARTITIONED
HOUSES ISN'T
GOING TO
RISE.



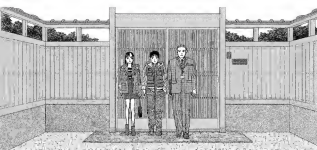
THAT PLACE
IS WORTH-
LESS.

IT'S OUT-
SIDE THE
SCOPE OF
THE COM-
PETITION.



BESIDES, IT'D
BE GOING
AGAINST THE
RULE OF PUR-
CHASING FOR
50 MILLION.





I THINK
YOU GOT
THROUGH
TO HIM.
IT LOOKS
PROMISING.



YOU
DID IT.

YOU
THINK
SO?



HE SAID
HE'LL GIVE
YOU AN
ANSWER AT
10 A.M. TO-
MORROW.
I WONDER
WHAT HE'S
GOING TO
SAY.



LOOKS
LIKE
YOU'RE
GOOD TO
GO.
AREN'T
YOU
GLAD?

I'M
GLAD
TO
HEAR
IT.



YOU HAD
ME FULLY
CONVINCED,
AND I'M
JUST A
BYSTANDER.





IT STICKS
IN MY
CRAW.

BUT THEN
AGAIN.



WHAT IS
IT THAT
BOTHERS
ME?



AND SINCE
INVESTING IN
THE LAND OF
PARTITIONED
HOUSES WOULD
BE ILLOGICAL,
THE VERY IDEA IS
ANTITHETICAL TO
MY VALUES.

I ALWAYS
THINK
LOGICALLY
AND
MECHANICALLY.
THAT'S
THE KIND OF
GUY I AM.



AND YET
SOMETHING
TELLS ME
THAT I CAN
EKE VALUE
OUT OF IT.

IT'S BEHIND
THE TIMES.
IT HAS NO
FUTURE
POSSIBILITY.

I CAN'T
FIGURE OUT
THE REASON
WHY I'M SO
BOTHERED
BY THIS.

WHAT'S
THE
MATTER
WITH ME?